

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 PER-01 A-01 CA-01
PPT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
ICA-11 SP-02 OC-06 CCO-00 SS-15 L-03 SCS-06
NSC-05 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 /134 W
-----114157 060538Z /14

R 031430Z AUG 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6539
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USDOC WASHDC

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ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A (DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT)
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI, IZ
SUBJECT: NEW IRAQI RESIDENCE LAW
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1. LAW NO. 95 OF 1978, ISSUED BY THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND
COUNCIL IN LATE MAY, PROVIDES NEW REGULATIONS FOR
REPORTING RESIDENCE IN IRAQ.

2. ANYONE PRESENTLY RESIDING IN THE COUNTRY--IRAQI, ARAB
OR FOREIGNER--WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A SPECIAL

RESIDENCE FORM TO BE FILLED WITH THE "INFORMATION BUREAU" OF HIS LOCAL POLICE STATION. HEADS OF FAMILIES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT ALL FAMILY MEMBERS. THEY MUST ALSO NOTIFY THE INFORMATION BUREAUS WITHIN 10 DAYS OF ANY BIRTHS, DEATHS, OR MARRIAGES WITHIN THE FAMILY.

3. IN THE FUTURE, ALL IRAQIS ARRIVING FROM ABROAD MUST FILL OUT THE FORM WITHIN TEN DAYS OF ENTRY. NON-IRAQI CITIZENS WILL HAVE FORTY-EIGHT HOURS TO REPORT. HOTEL OWNERS ARE EXPECTED TO HELP THEIR GUESTS REGISTER AND ALSO MUST REPORT DEPARTURES WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

4. THE NEW LAW REPORTEDLY TOOK EFFECT ON AUGUST 1, 1978, ALTHOUGH INSTRUCTIONS FOR CARRYING OUT ITS PROVISIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PUBLICIZED.

5. THE ABOVE PARAGRAPHS DESCRIBE THE LAW'S PROVISIONS AS THEY WERE PUBLISHED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS. THE LONGER EXPLANATION WHICH APPEARED IN THE ARABIC PRESS INDICATED THAT THE LAW ALSO COVERS MOVEMENT WITHIN IRAQ. THOSE WHO LEAVE THEIR NORMAL PLACES OF RESIDENCE FOR MORE THAN A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME MUST REGISTER AGAIN IN THE AREAS WHERE THEY ARE VISITING. THIS PROVISION SEEMS TO APPLY TO ALL RESIDENTS, WHETHER IRAQI OR NOT.

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6. COMMENT: UNTIL THE LAW IS ENFORCED, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS ITS EFFECTS. THE GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY IS TRYING TO KEEP CLOSER TRACK OF MOVEMENT INTO, OUT OF AND WITHIN IRAQ. WHILE IT MAY BE RESENTED BY SOME AS ADDITIONAL RESTRICTION, THE NEW LAW PROBABLY WILL NOT AFFECT DAILY LIFE MORE THAN TO ADD TO THE PAPERWORK.

7. ALTHOUGH NOT CLEAR IN THE PRESS REPORTS, IT APPEARS THAT THIS REGISTRATION WITH THE POLICE WILL NOT TAKE THE PLACE OF THE CURRENT REGISTRATION OF THE RESIDENCE DEPARTMENT THAT IS REQUIRED FOR MOST FOREIGN VISITORS STAYING MORE THAN 15 DAYS.

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